

SPORTS



The captain of the USSR national team Vyacheslav Fetisov (left), attacker Viktor Shatov and their teammates line up with their prizes at the end of the "Izvestia" Prize contest.

President of the International Ice Hockey Federation Gunther Sabetzki presents the Golden Stick for the best 1981/82 European player to Vladislav Tretiak.

Photos by Andrei Knyazov

NHL-USSR SERIES AHEAD

After winning the 18th International "Izvestia" Ice-hockey tournament the USSR national team took just one day off before getting together for a practice session. December 20 will see the opening of their series of games in Canada and the USA against leading NHL clubs.

The closing "Izvestia" game against Czechoslovakia, which placed us at the top of the standings, was our best attack performance yet, said Soviet head coach Viktor Tikhonov. We won 9-4, and thus went through the tournament with an unbroken slate. Still this game, too, showed up our defence problems, which we'll have to deal with in the run-up to the world championship.

What is the chief upshot of the Moscow tournament, I asked Tikhonov.

There will be no weak opponents to the April 16-May 2 world championship in West Germany, and this is no empty talk, he noted. Finland has run up for the first time yet in Moscow, having disposed of world vice-champions Czechoslovakia and many-time award-winners Sweden, who came respectively third and fourth. West Germany came bottom of the standings, but still made it clear they could give a lot of trouble to any opposition, having licked Finland, 10-2.

For our overseas tour we have called up the "Izvestia" Prize winning playcats as well as aspiring Yashin, Semyonov, Vernekov, Starikov and Tyuninov. I am looking forward to keen competition for the prestige of the originators of ice hockey will be at stake.

Alexander BUISENIN

Recently IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch was in Moscow at the invitation of the USSR Olympic Committee.

I attended the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the USSR, received by the Soviet leaders and was very happy to present Olympic awards to celebrated sports women Yelena Nukhina, Lyudmila Turishcheva and Irina Rodnina.

My Moscow visit was both important and successful, Samaranch told a press conference in Moscow.

Asked by MNI what preoccupied him most on the eve of the New Year he replied:

For the IOC the coming pre-Olympic year will be a difficult one in view of the host of sporting spectacles we have planned for it. Also, the nearer the time comes for the Sarajevo and Los Angeles Olympics, the harder we need to work to make these Games worthy of the name.

Alpine skiing will have the largest number of contestants—and not for nothing, since many of the world's skiing celebrities are college students.

formation gives you a full idea of life in the Soviet Union for the week.

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FOOTBALL CLUB VOTED BEST

The Swedish telegraphic bureau has published a list of Sweden's ten top sportmen of the year in a survey involving 150 leading newspaper and magazine sports writers.

For the first time ever a team, UEFA cup holders Göteborg, rather than an individual came out on top. Noted tennis player Mats Wilander, who did well in several big international tournaments, was placed second, and renowned Alpine skier Ingemar Stenmark, twice Olympic winner and many-time world cup holder, came third.

Significantly, for the first time in the past nine years live-time Wimbledon winner Björn Borg failed to make the top ten; still he leads the list of Sweden's best sportmen of all time, with Stenmark following him.

HANDBALL

The draw for the European men's handball cup made in the headquarters of the International Handball Federation (IHF) in Basel, Switzerland, ruled that the USSR champion Central Army Club will meet Magdeburg (DDR), Minsk Army Club will take on West German Grosswallstadt in the Cup Winners Cup, and Zapovednyi will face Hungarian Banjas in the IHF Cup.

The first games (CAC and Zil will host them) will be held between January 3-9, 1983, and the second-leg games are due between January 11 and 16.

JUAN ANTONIO
SAMARANCH:
IOC HAS TO OBSERVE
OLYMPIC CHARTER
PRINCIPLES

IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch signs his name on a stand at the Olympic Museum, Moscow, whose inauguration he attended in 1980.

Four are considering holding the Winter Olympics. For me it would be an important, exciting and happy event were a Soviet city to be included among the hitherto Soviet sport is one of pillars of the international Olympic movement. The promotion of sport in your country serves as an example not just of spectacular sporting performance but also of the advancement of mass physical training and sport.

The IOC has to observe the principles of the Olympic Charter, Samaranch emphasized, and we will make sure this is done.

The IOC president stressed the singular importance of the January 1983 Los Angeles meeting of heads of national Olympic committees, international federations and IOC Executive Council members with the organizers of the 1984 Summer Olympics.

In their "New York Times" article they emphasized that the arms race limitation issue has gained particular urgency due to the stepped up drive for a freeze on nuclear weapons and against the deploy-

ment of the new MX missile in the United States and American nuclear medium-range missiles in Western Europe. They noted that there are now over 20,000 nuclear warheads in the world, with many of them far more powerful than the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, which killed over 100,000 people. Their aggregate explosive power is many times that of all the weapons used throughout human history. It is emphasized in the article.

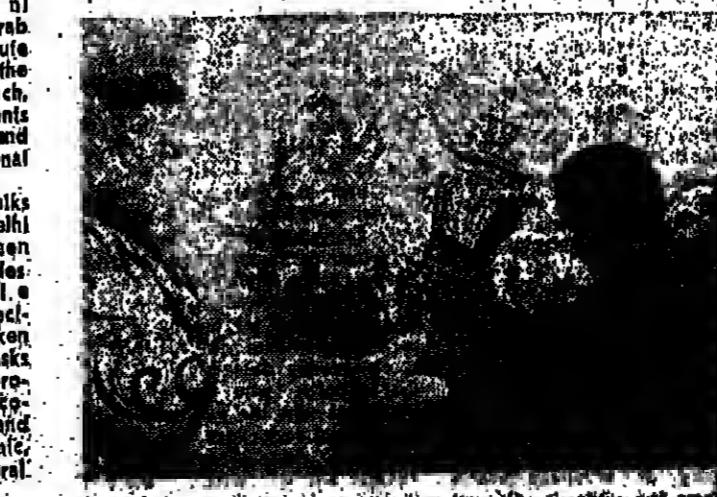
FACTS and EVENTS

● At its session in Rabat, the 13-nation Ministerial Council of the Arab Organization for Mineral Resources has decided to complete the compilation of a geological map of the Arab world, to expand the Institute for Mineral Resources in the Moroccan city of Marrakech, which will receive students from other Arab countries, and to set up a similar educational establishment in Amman.

● At the Indo-Pakistani talks which have just ended in Delhi to normalize relations between the two countries, the two sides have agreed on the status of a bilateral commission, the decision to set up which was taken last November. One of the tasks facing the commission is to promote the development of co-operation between India and Pakistan in the economic, scientific, technical and cultural fields.

● A new oil field has been discovered on the continental shelf off the Malaysian state of Sabah. The area is

present, nearly 300 thousand barrels of oil a day are extracted in Malaysia. However, the oil reserves prospective in the country at the present time are limited, and it is believed they could give out before the end of the century if no new oil fields are found.



The Russian winter holiday with its endless snow-making and snow-competitions coincides with the "Russian Winter" Arts Festival and its cultural programme now under way in Moscow. This photo shows a West German visitor receiving a prize at a

Round the Soviet Union

● THE FIRST CURRENCY HAS BEEN GENERATED BY THE FIRST POWER BLOCK AT THE SHAMKHOR HEP IN AZERBAIJAN, RATED AT 100 THOUSAND KILOMETERS. WHEN COMPLETED, THE REPUBLIC WILL BE THE BIGGEST IN THE REPUBLIC.

● 600 THOUSAND MILLION CU M OF GAS HAS BEEN EXTRACTED IN THE KARAKUM DESERT SINCE THE GAS INDUSTRY WAS SET UP. IN

TURKMENIA, AT present, more than ten submerged gas extraction complexes are operating in the desert.

● KIRGHIZIA, LATVIA, TURKMENIA, MOLDAVIA AND AZERBAIJAN — these are the names that have been given to the steppes recently discovered by astronomers at the Crimean Observatory. The names have been approved by the Minor Planet Centre. This custom of dedicating their discoveries to the friendship among Soviet peoples was started by Soviet astrophysicists in the previous years. In the present time, fifteen of the small planets revolving round the Sun are named after Soviet republics.

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ANDREI GROMYKO
MEETS AMERICAN
AMBASSADOR

The USSR Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko recently received the US ambassador to the Soviet Union, A. Hartman, at the latter's request. During their conversation, the two statesmen discussed various matters relating to Soviet-American relations including the links on limiting nuclear arms now being held at Geneva.

Stressing the importance of the new constructive initiatives put forward by Yuri Andropov in his speech during the celebrations to mark the 60th anniversary of the USSR, Andrei Gromyko said that he hopes that the Americans would give serious consideration to those proposals with a view to reaching mutually acceptable agreements during the Geneva talks.

Soviet and British social scientists meet in Cambridge

London. An immediate freeze on the manufacture, testing and deployment of nuclear arms of all types is the first step towards universal and complete disarmament has been called for by delegates attending a meeting between Soviet and British social scientists held in Cambridge on the initiative of the Quakers for Peace and Social Justice organization.

The scientists and public leaders taking part unanimously called for a ban on the use of nuclear weapons to solve international conflict, and for a substantial reduction in military expenditure.

In the course of the debate and in the concluding document issued at the meeting the need was noted for mutual effort to strengthen deterrence as an important means of making the international atmosphere healthier. Delegates also expressed their support for the peace-loving nations in all countries, and for the creation of nuclear-free zones in different parts of the world.

They also voted their backing for the Helsinki agreement which envisages expansion of international cooperation in different areas, and expressed the hope that cooperation and mutual understanding between the Soviet and the British people would be expanded.

C. VANCE AND R. HUNTER OPPOSED TO ARMS RACE

New York. Former US State Secretary C. Vance and former National Security Council Adviser R. Hunter have urged more action to curb the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race.

In their "New York Times" article they emphasized that the arms race limitation issue has gained particular urgency due to the stepped up drive for a freeze on nuclear weapons and against the deploy-

Japan to continue its ban on nuclear arms

Tokyo. Japan will firmly adhere to the three principles of renouncing nuclear weapons, it will not possess or manufacture such weapons or introduce them onto its territory, said the Japanese Prime Minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone. Addressing the budget commission in the Upper House of the Japanese Parliament, Nakasone said his government will refuse all American requests to have such weapons deployed in Japan.

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RUSSIAN ART IN TOKYO

The exhibition, "Art and Revolution — Russian Avant-Gardism" dedicated to 60 years of the formation of the USSR was a great success at Tokyo's Seibu Museum. Thousands of Tokyo citizens and guests from many Japanese towns were attracted by about 300 pictures, posters, sketches and other works by Soviet artists of the post-Revolution years. They included the works of N. Alimov, N. Goncharov, V. Kandinsky, K. Korovin, V. Tatlin, K. Yuon and many others. The Visitors Book has many cordial entries. Many of them read: "The works of these masters are

of great artistic value and continue to be examples of modern fine art". In the photo visitors at Seibu

Museum are looking at exhibits of Soviet painting.

● India is holding a Month of Indo-Soviet Friendship dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the USSR. The Indian Ambassador to Moscow, Mr. S. Venkateswaran, addressed the Indian Parliament on November 26. He said: "India and the Soviet Union are close friends and have a long history of cooperation. We are working together to achieve a better world for all humanity".

● The Istanbul-Cologne exhibition "Russia and the Soviet Union" opened at the National Art Museum of Turkey in Ankara on November 25. The exhibition features works by Soviet artists, including portraits of Soviet leaders, scenes of Soviet life, and Soviet literature. The exhibition also includes a section on the history of the Soviet Union and its achievements in science, technology, and culture.

BRITAIN AND EEC LOCKED IN CONTROVERSY

London, January 1, 1983 will mark the tenth anniversary of Britain's entry into the Common Market. Reuter stresses in this respect that at best many Britons regard the EEC with suspicion and at worst, with open hostility. For millions of the British this period was hell-marked by a steady rise in food prices, which have nearly trebled over the past decade. Such a jump is one of the more tangible results of the so-called joint EEC agricultural policy, which obviously runs counter to

the country's cultural interests. Small wonder that it is precisely the argument over the EEC food pricing policy and the issue of Britain's contribution to the Community budget that underlies the audience conflicts with her EEC partners.

Britain is still demanding to have her contribution cut back in exchange for concessions on the issue of prices for goods produced by EEC farmers. This is vigorously opposed by traditional agricultural producers, especially France, and the conflict is still unresolved.

ARAB TERRITORY COLONIZED

Doha. According to the Qatar news agency (QNA) a large Israeli construction firm has started work on a comprehensive construction project for the occupied lands on the West Bank of the River Jordan and the Gaza Strip. The territories are being photographed from the air for the best sites for the new settlements. In the Gaza Strip the surroundings of Khan-

Yunis have been examined and a colonization plan for the district prepared. Several settlements and military districts will be built there.

The Bel-Lahm area on the West Bank will become the centre of the colony. A complex of fortified settlements will be built there with a communications system linking them to the militarized forward posts around Jerusalem.

South Africans torture political prisoners

London. South African police subjects political prisoners to severe torture and flogging, says report issued by the British Council of Churches, the International Commission of Jurists and a number of other public organizations.

The document has been compiled on the basis of testimony made by former prisoners in secret jails and by relatives of

political prisoners who have died. It includes a list of sophisticated tortures techniques such as beatings with rifle butts, keeping prisoners without sleep or food and giving them electric shocks.

Nearly 200 thousand political prisoners are held in South Africa's jails. Over the past few years 60 of them died as a result of "unclarified" circumstances.



Drawing by Yuri Ivanov

CORRUPTION IN U.S. CONGRESS

Washington. Corruption is roiling the US Congress, said H. Reuss, Democratic Congressman representing the state of Wisconsin and M. Fenwick, Republican Congresswoman of New Jersey.

In an interview to NBC, H. Reuss said that many legislators were begging for money from different groups of Big Business. If no severe measures are taken to stem the corruption in Congress, he said, this vice will destroy our entire nation. He sharply criticized the US Supreme Court decision not to impose restrictions on the sums which Congressional candidates could spend on their election campaigns.

On her part, M. Fenwick noted that the Congressional election campaign had turned into a contest between persons which had nothing to do with politics and added that the corruption of the legislators had become unprecedented in scale.

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HOW MANY AMERICAN SERVICEMEN ARE STATIONED OUTSIDE THE USA?

Washington. According to the "US News and World Report", there are 543,400 troops stationed in foreign countries, 28,850 more than at the end of the last year.

The most powerful strike force is posted in Western Europe and the Far East. There are 355,600 American troops in Western Europe, primarily in West Germany, a 10,200 increase on last year's figure. Another 90,200 troops are billeted in South and South-West Asia.

Tokyo. A resolution carried by the US Senate demanding that Japan should increase its military expenditure has been described as unheard-of in relations between two sovereign countries by the Japanese "Mainichi" newspaper.

The Japanese Parliament has declared that this constitutes interference in Japan's domestic affairs.

This resolution which has been unanimously carried by the US Senate delineates the range of Japan's "defence commitments" and its military poli-

FACTS and EVENTS

More than five thousand Salvadorans have been killed or kidnapped this year by the repressive regime's secret services and by gangsters from ultra-right-wing paramilitary groups. This was revealed in a report issued by the clandestine commission on human rights operating in El Salvador.

According to a report from the council for reconstruction and development in Lebanon published by the "An-Nahar" newspaper, the Israeli aerial and artillery bombardment in West Beirut and in the mountainous areas has completely destroyed or seriously damaged nearly ten thousand houses, administrative buildings, factories, banks and other offices. The damage which the invaders have inflicted on housing in Lebanon is estimated to amount to 3,500 million Lebanese pounds, an enormous sum for a small country like Lebanon. Hundreds of thousands of civilians have been left homeless, and without jobs or other means of sustenance.

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ENTERTAINMENT



Conductor Vladimir Podostoyev. • Singer Yelena Obraztsova and Vladimir Spivakov, art director of the Moscow Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra. • Peter Donohoe, a winner of the 7th International Tchaikovsky Competition.

'RUSSIAN WINTER' ARTS FESTIVAL GETS UNDERWAY

On December 25, the Bolshoi Theatre launched the annual Moscow "Russian Winter" Arts Festival, with their new production, the ballet "The Golden Age" to music by Shostakovich. The festival this year will act as the final stage of the All-Union "Friendship Among Peoples" Arts Festival dedicated to the 50th anniversary since the establishment of the USSR.

The Bolshoi Theatre and the Kremlin Palace of Congresses will also be giving special performances of leading Russian operas and ballets—"The Queen of Spades" and "The Nutcracker" by Tchaikovsky, "Boris Godunov" and "Khovanshchina" by Mussorgsky and "The Tsar's Bride" by Rimsky-Korsakov. The works of Soviet composers will be represented by "War and Peace" and "Romeo and Juliet" by Prokofiev, "Spaniards" by Aram Khachaturian and the ballet "Anna Karenina" and the ballet "The Dead Soul" by Rodion Shchedrin. Productions of Igor Stravinsky's "Petrushka" and "The Firebird" have also been repeated.

The Grand Hall of the Conservatoire will be the venue for

concerts by Tikhon Kremlev and Rostislav Bolko. The singer Yelena Obraztsova and pianist Svetoslav Rikhter will be appearing together with the Moscow Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra and the Borodino Quartet. Pianist Peter Donohoe of Britain, who won the 7th International Tchaikovsky Competition, will give a recital accompanied by the USSR Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Niyazi.

As part of the festival, a con-

cert will be given at the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall by winners of national and international contests of the past two years. The following are among the groups performing at the festival: the Moscow Dance Ensemble, the Molosov Dance Ensemble; the Pyatnitsky Russian Folk Choir and the Moscow Chamber Choir. In addition, there will also be performances by ensembles from Union's republics — the Ukrainian

Symphony Orchestra, the Moldavian Zhok Dance Ensemble, the Lituuan Dance and Song Ensemble from Lithuania, and other compaines. Moscow's theatres have put on their leading productions for the festival.

The "Russian Winter" Arts Festival will end on January 5 with a gala concert at the Kremlin Palace of Congresses. A total of 35 thousand guests from 40 countries are expected.



• The Alai pop group from Georgia play at the Olimpiyskiy sports complex. • An Italian Tarantella performed by the Molosov Dance Ensemble.

Photos by A. Rainikov and K. Kokoshkin

The Theatre in Rossi Street

In this country we have theatres named after well-known directors, actors and historical figures. But there is only one theatre—in Leningrad—named after a choreographer.

A bronze plaque hangs between two high doors on the third floor of an imposing white-columned building in Rossi Street. It was here more than 200 years ago that the history of Russian ballet began. The plaque

reads: "The Alexander Shiryayev Studio-Theatre".

Over the years several thousand graduates from the Leningrad School of Ballet have danced on the stage in this small hall, starting with the six girls and boys who were enlisted to learn "theatrical dancing" way back in 1738.

The whole of Shiryayev's life

—he was dancer, teacher and producer—was connected with ballet. A student of the famous Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov, he soon came to the fore as a character dancer especially after his success in Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker" in 1892. Having then created his own theory of character dancing, Shiryayev devoted all his efforts and inspiration to the development of the genre.

Moscow's Satire Theatre and the USSR

The art of the Moscow Satire Theatre has always been linked with the multinational theatrical art of this country. In different years, it has performed plays by Tatars, Moldavians, Ukrainians, and Komi playwrights as well as dramas by the other nationalities. Many of the company's well-known actors began their artistic careers at theatres in the constituent republics. It is these artistic links maintained by the theatre with drama companies and playwrights from all corners of the USSR that provide the theme for its new play, "Concert for Theatre and Orchestra", staged by Alexander Shiryayev. This is a merry lyrical production whose cast includes not only most of the company, but also some of the siege hands.

Photo by Andrey Kryzhev



Photo by Andrey Kryzhev

WHAT'S ON!

December 28-31

THEATRES

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.) 28 — Stachanov, "Anna Karenina" (ballet). 30—Mussorgsky, "Khovanshchina" (opera). 31—Tchaikovsky, "The Nutcracker" (ballet).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.) 28 (mat) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet); 29 (eve)—Khrennikov, "A Son-In-Law Without Kith or Kin" (opera). 30 — Zhubenova, "Moscow Is Behind Us" (opera). 31 (mat)—Vainberg, "The Golden Key"; 31 (eve)—Tchaikovsky, "Iolanta" (opera).

Opera Theatre (Pushkinskaya St.) 28 — Ziv, "Messieurs Artistes"; 29, 31 (mat and eve)—Glazkov, "Khotibach"; 28 (eve)—Milyutin, "Girls in a Flurry". 30 (mat, eve)—Casagrande, "Pinocchio's Adventures"; Kremlev, "Children From Our Backyard" (one-act ballet); 30 (eve)—Gaidar, "A Crossroads"; 31 (eve)—Falkman, "An Old Comedy".

Exhibition Hall, USSR Academy of Arts (2 Kropotkinskaya St.). One-man show of sculpture by Oleg Komarov. The emphasis is on our contemporaries though there are also many works there. There are also many works by Oleg Komarov.

Communist clubs (various addresses) 28-31 (various times).

FILMS

The Donkey's Skid (Leningrad Studios, USSR).

A film on the motifs of the famous fairy tale by Charles Perrault.

Cinema "Leningrad" (12 Walter Ulrich St.), Metro Sokol. For Addicts of Crossword Puzzles (Groznyi, USSR).

A thriller based on documentary material drawn from real cases.

Cinema "Forum" (14 Sadovaya-Sukharevskaya St.), Metro Kolokhovaya.

Exhibitions

found in the cities of Kalinin and Madrid, as well as in the village of Boldino and Pushkin. Every, except Monday, noon to 7 p.m. On Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Metro Kropotkinskaya.

RACING

Hippodrome (22 Begevaya St.) 29 and 31 — Racing and trotting. 8 p.m. (both days).

WEATHER

December 28-31

HANDBALL

Central Army Club Sports Gym (38 Leningradsky Prospekt) 28 and 29 — USSR women's top-league championship. At 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. (both days).

Top-class clubs are taking part in the first round of the 1982-83 USSR championship: Luch (Moscow), Zvezda (Leningrad), Avtomobilist (Kiev), Zeigler (Kaunas), ZIL (Zaporozhye) and others.

In Australia they are having a dry and very hot summer with temperatures reaching 41° to 45°C above zero in the middle of the continent.

TRANSPORT HOURS

Metro 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fare 5 kopeks.

Trolleybuses 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 4 kopeks.

Buses 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fare 5 kopeks.

Trams 5:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Fare 3 kopeks.

Taxis 24-hour service. Twenty kopeks on the meter.

To begin, plus 10 kopeks per kilometre.

Ordering a cab 24-hour service: Telephone 225-60-00.

Commercial cabs (over 40 routes in the city) 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fare 15 kopeks.

BUSINESS

NOVASIDER ON THE SOVIET MARKET

Violinists from 18 countries competed recently in a contest marking the 200th anniversary of Niccolò Paganini, the renowned violinist and composer. The contest was held at his birthplace, Cremona.

Noted Soviet violinist Vladimir Spivakov was on the jury. Last year the All-European Music Academy presented him with the critics award for outstanding achievements in the field of music.

Both of the two Soviet entrants in the Cremona contest won high awards. Maxim Fedorov, who studies under Moscow Conservatoire Prof. D. Tygenov, won fourth prize, and Boris Gerlitsky won second prize. The first prize remained unawarded. B. Gerlitsky combined preparation for the contest with hard work as a member of the Moscow Virtuosi Orchestra led by V. Spivakov. The latter was also in charge of Gerlitsky's practice run-up to the contest.

Right after the competition V. Spivakov gave a recital at the renowned San Carlo Theatre in Naples. He played a programme of works by Beethoven, Mozart, Paganini and Stravinsky to a full house. Spivakov managed to bring out the unleashed potential of each instrument and achieved an acute penetration and the fiscal emotions that only music can express, wrote the local "Milano".

We regard our first ever Moscow symposium on the manufacture of standardized elements used in making moulds and dies as an attempt to establish direct links with Soviet research organizations and enterprises. Ohio Heuer, representative of Hasco, a West German company, told our correspondent. Apart from technical reports, we informed our Soviet colleagues of Hasco's production and export potential, he went on.

The company exports to practically all industrialized nations.

Its most widely standardized elements go to manufacture parts made of non-ferrous metals and plastics.

We don't deal directly with

Soviet organizations. Heuer stressed, but our products have been included in complete sets attached to metal-working machines exported by other Western companies.

For example, the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machinery of the USSR and the firm of Fiat-Alfa are now considering cooperating in designing a new model of the heavy T-450 bulldozer which is planned to manufacture at the Chelyabinsk plant of Industrial Tractors, as well as a new model

for the M-142 row crop tractor turned out by the Minak tractor factory. Fiat may also participate in the designing of a new model of car for the Moscow AZLK automobile plant, as well as in supplying technology and equipment for the production of a new car model at the Volzhsky automobile plant. Carlo Barni said that in 1982 Fiat-Alfa received a Soviet order for about 300 heavy bulldozers.

The Italian firm of Pirelli is studying the Soviet suggestions for building the following joint project in the USSR: a wedge belt factory for industrial and farm machinery, as well as factories for making lenses, belts and protective masks with respirators.

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The

SPORTS

Sports top ten of the year



Vladimir Salnikov comes out top once again.

Triple swimming Olympic winner, world champion and record holder Vladimir Salnikov, 22, from Leningrad, has been voted Soviet sportsman of the year for the second time, with a year's interval between the nominations, in a survey run by the nationwide federation of sports writers together with the USSR Sports Committee promotion department. At the 1982 world championships in Ecuador, Salnikov retained his 100 m and 1,500 m free style titles, an achievement that has not been matched in the history of the championships.

The other nominees are Vladimir Partenovich Nilsen, canoeing; Anatoly Pisarenko (Kiev), weightlifting; Rinat Dasayev (Moscow), football; Vali Sedykh (Kiev), track and field; Natalya Petrusova (Moscow), speedskating; Anatoly Karpov (Moscow), chess; Sergei Kopylov (Tula), cycling; Vladimir Bulyberdin (Leningrad), sailing; and Vyacheslav Poltov (Moscow), ice hockey.

Many are also Olympic, world and European champions. Altogether 72 sportsmen were named in 23 different sports.

BOXING

World Cup winner Valery Abazhyan, 24, from Voronezh, has won his first yet national open-category title, downing twice title holder Vyacheslav Yakovlev, from Leningrad. Abazhyan was awarded a gold medal and the "Nedelya" weekly "Crystal Glove" Prize.

The two fought an experimental five round (two minutes each) bout, which Abazhyan won only due to his having more points after the end of the closing round. He won a points decision even though at 84 kg he weighed four kilos less than his opponent.

Valery Abazhyan was the national open-category boxing title.

Photo by Andrey Knyazev



JUNIOR HOPEFULS IN ACTION

The USSR beat Norway 10-1 at the start of the world junior championship in Leningrad.

The other under-21 entrants are Canada, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Sweden, the USA, and West Germany.

It was precisely at such championships that Soviet ace players Pervisov, Kasatonov, Matkov and Kritov first came to the fore.

This is the seventh ice-hockey spectacular to have been held to date. The first one was also held in Leningrad. Last year Canada won the title, while the USSR came a mere fourth, though having previously won the title on four occasions and having once finished third.

In the other sporting games, Canada outplayed West Germany, 4-0, Czechoslovakia overpowered the USA, 6-4, and Poland disposed of Sweden, 6-4.

The one-stage contest will wind up on January 4.



The USSR and Norway in action.
Photo by Andrey Gotoyanov

WORLD CUP IN TIME-OUT

The World Cup in alpine skiing has taken on Xmas break to last until January 4, 1983. The men's leading trio consists of Peter Muller (Switzerland), 89 points; Primoz Zurbriggen (Switzerland), 78 points; Harti Weller (Austria), 74 points. So far the leaders do not include the "slalom king" Ingemar Stenmark, who takes sixth place with 53 points, while the holder

of the two lost Crystal Globes—American Phil Mahre, is 17th with 30 points.

With her 105 points the Swiss Erika Hess has a strong lead in the women's section of the Cup. She is followed by the Liechtenstein skier Ilona Wenzel with 69 points and the American Tomara McKinney with 65 points.

UEBERROTH'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Peter Ueberroth, president of the Olympics organizing committee, told a press conference in San Francisco that he had still failed to win international confidence for the Los Angeles Summer Games. He said that

the world sporting community was particularly anxious over the scale of funding the organizing committee is planning for the Games.

He further noted the lack of enthusiasm among Californians for the Olympics,



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"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and often in brief, latest information on events in the USSR and in the world reported by TABS and foreign news agencies. Nothing short of the material carried in the editions of both "Moscow News" and "MN In-

formation" gives you a full idea of life in the Soviet Union for the week.

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NEW YEAR WORRIES FOR ICE-HOCKEY FANS



The match between the USSR clubs team and Edmonton Oilers opened December 20 the Canadian six-game tournament of Soviet players meeting NHL teams. Dates for the other matches are as follows: December 31 for the Montreal Canadiens; December 30 for Quebec Nordiques; January 2 for Calgary Flames. The Soviet team will then play two matches in the USA with Minnesota North Stars (January 4) and Philadelphia Flyers (January 6).

As you see, the USSR national who are world champions have a difficult time ahead with six matches in 10 days and permanent flyovers. The coaches

are of the opinion that it is playing against the NHL teams that the trio skill and character of the young players is put to the test.



SURPASSING WORLD MARK

World top speedskating all-rounder Muscovite Sergei Khetchnikov clocked 1 min 13.19 sec in the 1,000 speedskating run, shoving 0.29 sec off the former record of Canadian Gaetan Ouellet. Khetchnikov completed at the high-altitude Medeo skating rink.

Who will host world football spectacular?

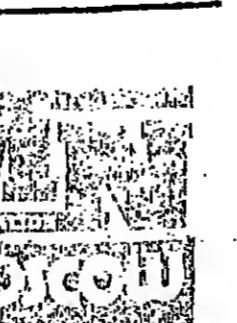
FIFA will soon request the football associations of Brazil, Mexico, the USA and Canada to inform it of their readiness to host the 1986 world championship. The answers have to be forthcoming not later than January 10, 1983, the deadline for formal bidding for the world championship.

Viktor Tikhonov and Vladislav Yurzhev took on the task as the final stage for choosing candidates for the world championship to be held in West Germany next spring. A large group of promising players will be taking part together with the famous goalkeepers Ustukov and Myshkin; Iorovash, Moltsay, Kritov, Lantsov, Zhirkov, Shalimov, Shepelyov and Kapustin, and the debutante Feliksov, Kasatonov, Il'yushchenko, Pervukhin and Labakov. The coaches are of the opinion that it is in playing against the NHL teams that the trio skill and character of the young players is put to the test.

VOLLEYBALL

Moscow Dynamo head Sverdlovsk United, Sverdlovsk United, 3-0, at the last stage of its national women's volleyball championship roared in a close. Dynamo won the Moscow stage, scoring two points. The Medieval Institute team from Odessa, the Central Army Club and Leningrad ITU led to Severodnestr's single standing level of four points each. The second stage will get under way in mid-January.

Photo by
Sergei Proshkov



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